Mr. C. R. Iyyunni.—What are his initials?

Mr. M. P. Cherian—N. I. Ignitius.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni.—Is it Nadakkavukaran?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—We do not know.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Before accepting tenders did the Government enquire the price of beef?

Mr. President.—Government had no reason to suspect any foul play. The Honorary Superintendent recommended the acceptance of the lowest tender and Government accepted it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni.—What will be the total disparity between the rates of 1110 and 1111?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Below Rs. 4,000.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder.—Is the quality the same?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—We expect the same quality.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder.—No wonder the beasts are under-fed.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Was not the rates excessive?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—It was not excessive when compared with the market value of beef.

Mr. President.—We had absolutely no reason to think that there was any foul play. Tenders were called for and the lowest tender was accepted. It has now been ordered that tenders for the supply of articles to the Museum should be addressed to the Secretary to Government and it will be opened by the office.

Extension of the term of the present Municipal Councils.

131. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they are contemplating to extend the life of the present Municipal Councils in the State;

(2) if so, the reasons for the same?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(1) The life of the present Municipal Councils has been extended till 1—4—1113 by a Proclamation by His Highness the Maharaja dated 25—7—1936.

(2) The reasons are stated in the Proclamation referred to in (1).

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—How long had the question of the amendment of the Municipal Regulation been under the consideration of the Government?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—For more than a year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Why did they not expedite it? Did they not know that the term of the Councils will expire this year?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.— All possible expedition was made in the matter. There have been numerous amendments in the British Act in the meanwhile and Government had to keep pace with the British amendments. Then the draft prepared was also submitted for scrutiny by the Law Commissioner and it was checked in the Secretariat, again sent to the Government Advocate for further scrutiny and then printed and published.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Does the new Bill contemplate any extension of franchise?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I think it is better to make an explanation. In view of the radical alterations made in the draft Bill it was extremely advisable if not absolutely necessary to postpone the life of the present Council. Apart from the additional powers conferred upon the Council, which is a separate matter, there are vital and fundamental changes relating to the constitution of the Council and the widened franchise upon which the electorate is based. Under the present Regulation the minimum strength of the Council is 15. There is no maximum. Under the new Bill the minimum strength is 16 and the maximum is 36 graded on a population basis. The proportion of the elected and nominated members under the old Bill is 2/3. It is now 4/5, the difference being 2/15, that is, for every 15 members, you get an increase of 2 elected members. Under the old Regulation only persons who had paid a tax to the Municipality in the preceding year are entered in the electoral rolls. Now under the new Bill all persons who pay a tax either to Government or to the Municipality are included. Then provision is made for a Vice-Chairman to preside in the absence of the Chairman.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി.— ഇതിനു മുമ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്ന മൂന്നാമത്തെ ലജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് കൌൺസിലിന്റെ കാലാവധി നീട്ടുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എസ്സ്. നാരായണയ്യർ,— ലജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് കൌൺസിലിന്റെ കാലാവധി നീട്ടിയതിനെപ്പറ്റി എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാവുന്നതാണ്.

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മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി.— അതിന്റെ ആവശ്യം എന്താണ്?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എസ്സ്. നാരായണയ്യർ.— എന്താവശ്യത്തിന്നാണെന്നും എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാവുന്നതാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എം. ഇബ്രാഹിം.— ലജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് കൌൺസിലിന് അധികാരങ്ങളൊന്നും കുട്ടുകയുണ്ടായില്ലല്ലോ?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Are the Government aware that there is great discontent among the ratepayers of the Trichur Municipal Council against the attitude taken by it towards the Electric Corporation?

Mr. President.—We are not aware of it.

Land Mortgage Bank—average monthly cost of.

132. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what is the average monthly cost of the Land Mortgage Bank establishment;

(b) how many rupees worth of transaction should there be in order to make the Bank a self-supporting concern at present?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon.—(a) Rs. 1,057.

(b) Rs. 10 lakhs.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In the establishment of the Land Mortgage Bank was it not a primary consideration of the Government that the agriculturists of the State should retain their land as against their creditors?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon.—Of course it is even now the idea of the Government.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If that was the idea was it not incumbent on the part of the Government to extend the Agricultural Moratorium?

Mr. President.—That question does not arise. We are discussing about the expenditure relating to the establishment of the Land Mortgage Bank. Moratorium does not arise out of it.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി.— പുതിയതായി വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അഡൈസറി ബോർഡിന്റെ ചിലവുകൂടി ഈ ഫണ്ടിൽ രൂപയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടുമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. നാരായണമേനോൻ.— ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി.— അതിന് എന്തു ചിലവുവരും?

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